CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDER

APRIL, 1942
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Civil Rights Defender

WESTWARD HO!

We knew the Dunne Tour would be a success, but the scale and extent of the results have gone far beyond our expectations.

The latest example of this comes from St. Louis. This Committee had been afraid that with their small forces, their efforts would be too modest. And what did they accomplish? No less than a meeting of the St. Louis CIO Industrial Council, attended by 125 delegates from CIO locals, at which Dunne explained the significance to labor of the Minneapolis convictions. This resulted in a substantial donation from the St. Louis Joint Advisory Council of the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employees CIO.

This is just one of many similar examples. In the two months since V.R. Dunne began his tour in Milwaukee on Feb. 2, he has visited over 25 cities in the East and Middle East. In every city Dunne's visit resulted not only in fresh impetus to the work but also brought in many valuable new contacts and friends. Hundreds of workers, trade union officials, educators, clergymen, liberals and progressives have been reached by Dunne's talks or by his personal visits and have been provided with an understanding of the deep significance of the Minneapolis convictions as a part of the steadily increasing campaign against labor's rights and civil liberties. As Dunne said: "We are fighting not only for ourselves but for the freedom and democratic rights of the entire labor movement and the American people."

So enthusiastic has been this response to Dunne's tour, that the CRDC has arranged a continuation of the tour as far as the West Coast, covering cities in Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Washington, Oregon and California. We feel confident that the results will be in every way equal to what has already been accomplished.

With the inspiration of Dunne's visits, this is the time for all the local Committees to show a new spurt of activity. Follow up the workers and new friends and contacts who came to the Dunne meetings. Send speakers to the trade union locals. Arrange CRDC socials and gatherings. Talk to liberal groups and organizations. Keep up your work...spread it wider...and DO IT NOW!

More Unions Rally to Defense

UNION SUPPORT

The fact that a steady stream of union support has been rolling in is proof in itself that a more and more important section of the workers are beginning to realize the significance of the Minneapolis case to the labor movement.

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THE DUNNE TOUR HAS GIVEN A SPURT TO THE UNION SUPPORT.

The list of central labor bodies in various cities is growing more and more impressive week by week. Thus far the following CIO Councils and AFL central bodies have supported the Defense.

New Jersey State Industrial Union Council.

Steel City Industrial Union Council. (Pittsburg)

United Shoe Workers Joint Council #13, N.Y.C.

Bridgeport Industrial Union Council

United Auto Workers District Council, Lockport, N.Y.

CIO Council #2 of Bucks County, Quakertown, Pa.

San Francisco Industrial Union Council

St. Louis Industrial Union Council

Int. Ladies Garment Workers Joint Board, Baltimore.

St. Louis Joint Advisory Council, UR& W Employees

Dress & Waistmakers Joint Board, ILGWU, N.Y.C.

In addition to the scores of local unions listed in the last issue of the CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDER, the following have contributed to the CRDC in recent weeks:

United Automobile Workers Goodyear Aircraft Local, Akron, Ohio. $50.00

Newton Tile Local #75, N.J. 10.00

United Rubber Workers #107, Trenton.. 25.00

Doll & Toy Workers Industrial Union #224 Trenton, N.J. 25.00

Brewery Workers #4, Buffalo, N.Y. . . . 5.00

Textile Workers Union #277, Newark. . .25.00

United Rubber Workers #205, Trenton. . 10.00

Amalgamated Lithographers AFL #1 N.Y. 10.00

Doll & Toy Workers Industrial Union #225 Trenton, N.J. 10.00

C R E D I T

must be given to the Local CRDC branches which went out in their cities, visited trade unionists and local unions, spoke at union meetings and spread the word among the labor movement on the case. Their hard work has brought exceedingly fine results.

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Civil Rights Defender

Poll-tax Smith & the Minneapolis Case

The full significance of the Minneapolis case becomes more apparent as the anti-labor drive in Congress becomes more outspoken.

The same Poll-Tax Representative Howard Smith of Virginia, who initiated the Smith "Gag" Act of 1940, under which the 18 Minnesota defendants were convicted and sentenced to over 20 years in jail, is the acknowledged leader of the anti-labor bloc.

The CIO has consistently opposed Representative Smith and has specifically condemned the Smith "Gag" Law. On July 21, 1941 the CIO News wrote: "Congressman Howard Smith of Virginia is a gentleman who loves labor in the same kind of way that the proverbial cannibal loves missionaries; he is always thinking up new recipes for making hash out of labor unions."

At the time the Smith "Gag" Act was debated in Congress a CIO News editorial said: "Labor knows that criminal syndicalism laws and the like have been repeatedly used against union organizers rather than for the purpose for which they were supposedly passed."

Trade unionists readily understand now that the Smith Act of 1940 was a part of the whole legislative edifice being built by Smith and his friends to wall up the rights of labor.

The importance of the fight to have the Smith Act of 1940 declared unconstitutional, by appealing the convictions of the 18 Minneapolis defendants to the Supreme Court, is seen now not only as a means of setting 18 labor leaders free, but as a blow struck in defense of labor's rights, and against the particular bloc of reactionary congressmen who made this prosecution possible.

The Civil Rights Defense Committee, in conjunction with the American Civil Liberties Union, is therefore in the forefront of the struggle for labor's rights; our case must be fought through to the end. We are fighting not only to set aside these convictions; we are in the first line of defense of the freedom and the constitutional liberties of all trade unions.

To carry this fight through we need large sums of money. The court costs, attorney's expenses, printing of records, clerk fees, etc. present us with the necessity to raise at least $10,000 in the next few months.

Every contribution is an investment that will help check the resort to other anti-democratic laws.

DO YOUR PART!

NEWS from the BRANCHES

THE DUNNE TOUR and the AMMUNITION DRIVE for funds to finance the first steps in the APPEAL of the Minneapolis case to the Supreme Court have resulted in new activities in the branches. HERE ARE A FEW EXAMPLES OF WHAT WE HEAR.

Twin Cities

"I am enclosing a check for $60.10, the amount of the net proceeds of a Workers Defense League benefit for the assistance of defendants in the sedition case and their families. It was strictly a social affair with cards and a showing of the movies of the commissary, etc."

Arthur Sternberg, Treas.
Twin-Cities Workers Defense League

Chicago

"Future Plans: A BIG SOCIAL! May 9th Saturday, with the Film, a dance, using a good juke box with an outstanding collection of records, specialty numbers (a magician, dance numbers by experts, humorous songs professionally presented, a bar and buffet administered in style and decorations."

St. Louis

"Please write a letter to the CIO Council asking permission for V.R. Dunne to speak at their meeting on March 25th".

Secretary

P.S.- V.R. Dunne spoke at this meeting and the case was wholeheartedly endorsed by the 125 delegates.

Memphis

"I am enclosing a money order for $1.50 as our first contribution on our quota for the Defense Fund Drive."

San Francisco

"We are very happy about Dunne coming out here. We have arranged a public meeting for Sunday, April 26th. Letters to unions are being mailed out. We also plan to have one other meeting, a dinner or a banquet."

Joan Wakefield,
Secretary

Los Angeles

"We are extremely pleased to hear that Vincent Dunne has included the West Coast on his lecture tour. We are making preparations to hold a minimum of two affairs and arrange for him to speak at unions."

Los Angeles concluded a very successful barn dance recently, and has been among the most resourceful of the Committees.

New Haven

"The newest additions to the New Haven CRDC are: Ralph Di Gia, CIO Organizer, Rev. Richard A. Foster, Negro Minister; two CIO Organizers, and two divinity students."

Winifred Nelson, Secretary

THE MINNEAPOLIS FILM

WHAT IS IT? A movie made in Minneapolis at the time of the trial...scenes of the defendants at the Commissary provided by the CRDC...the Thanksgiving banquet given for the defendants...Christmas party for the defendants' children...numerous other shots of the defendants and their families...a vivid record of the spirit in which the defendants took the government prosecution.

This is a silent film, with subtitles and a written commentary to be read as the film is shown...runs about 20 minutes...excellent photography, done by professionals.

HOW CAN YOU USE IT?

1. Unions. An ideal medium for getting into Union meetings which are often hungry for entertainment. Once having shown the film, it should be easy to take collections, raise funds and get resolutions passed in support of the defendants. Make arrangements to show it not only to unions which haven't been approached before, but also to those which have already given donations and support.

2. Organizations. Arrange for showings of the film before fraternal organizations, brotherhoods, clubs, liberal and progressive groups, forums, etc.

3. Social Affairs, large or small, can be built around the film, and a collection taken afterward.

HOW CAN YOU GET IT?

1. Write immediately to the CRDC, 160 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C. and tell us when you want the film and for how long.

2. There are two copies of the film...available after May 1st. We anticipate a heavy demand so make your arrangements with us now.

3. Plan to keep the film for at least a week, or several weeks if you want. Arrange as many showings in your vicinity as possible.

WHAT ARRANGEMENTS MUST YOU MAKE?

You will need a 16 mm. projector, a screen and someone to operate the machine. Projector and screen can be rented at low cost from any camera rental agency. Get the projector in time so you can run off the film a few times before it is shown, and practice reading the commentary with the film, to get them synchronized.

WILL THE MOVIE RAISE MONEY FOR THE CRDC?

Absolutely yes. It has already been shown twice in New York, with excellent results. Chicago and Newark have already requested the film.

WHEN DO YOU WANT IT?

WHAT OUR CONTRIBUTORS SAY

From J.H.K., Gettysburg, Pa.
"I am very pleased to send the enclosed check...Success to you in your efforts."

From F.L., N.Y.C.
"The...Seminary is greatly concerned with the maintenance and extension of civil liberties in the country during this present period.. we are behind your fight to maintain civil liberties."

From B.B., Cambridge, Mass.
"The enclosed contribution is for the defense. I hope that it will help to some extent to prevent such an incident from becoming a precedent for the future...with all best wishes to you and your work."

From B.B., Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pa.
"This is a small contribution, but it indicates my sympathy with the attempt to free the 18 Minneapolis Defendants, and to test the constitutionality of the Smith "Gag" Act. Civil liberties take on a new significance in war time; every effort to retain them in a period like this is a practical vote for democracy. And I'm for democracy!"

From J.H., New Hampshire, O.
"I hope the support of your work for the civil rights of every human individual will increase continuously. Maybe my contribution can be enlarged the next time."

From W.M.T., Arlington, Va.
"I am glad to be able to contribute toward the relief and defense of the defendants in the Minneapolis case. I want to compliment you on the booklet which you got out on the case written by Mr. Farrell."

From E.B.H., Hollywood, Calif.
"Enclosed please find check... I wish you all success and hope for the best of news for the Minneapolis group."

From E.K., Oshkosh, Nebr.
"Enclosed find check...trust this may be of definite assistance to the cause."

From E.D., Farmington, Mich.
"Enclosed please find contribution for your work, in which I have much sympathy. I wish I had more to send."

From M.F., Chicago, Ill.
"Thought I would add to the general exasperation and Weltschmertz of the Steel companies by turning over a check of theirs to me for your cause so I trust you'll make the best use of it possible."

From M.G., Youngstown, O. a great success...the collection came to $25 with a lot of the workers digging deep for their dollars."
"The Dunne meeting was

From N.T., New York City
"I fully agree with you as to the importance of some defense in the St. Paul case, which does jeopardize American civil liberties...I shall do what I can to arouse interest in the case and enclose a small contribution."

From E.B.H., Wilkinsburg, Pa.
"Enclosed please find my second contribution...I very much wish that it could be far greater, but a retired missionary's allowance is easily stretched too thin. I certainly hope you will win this case!"

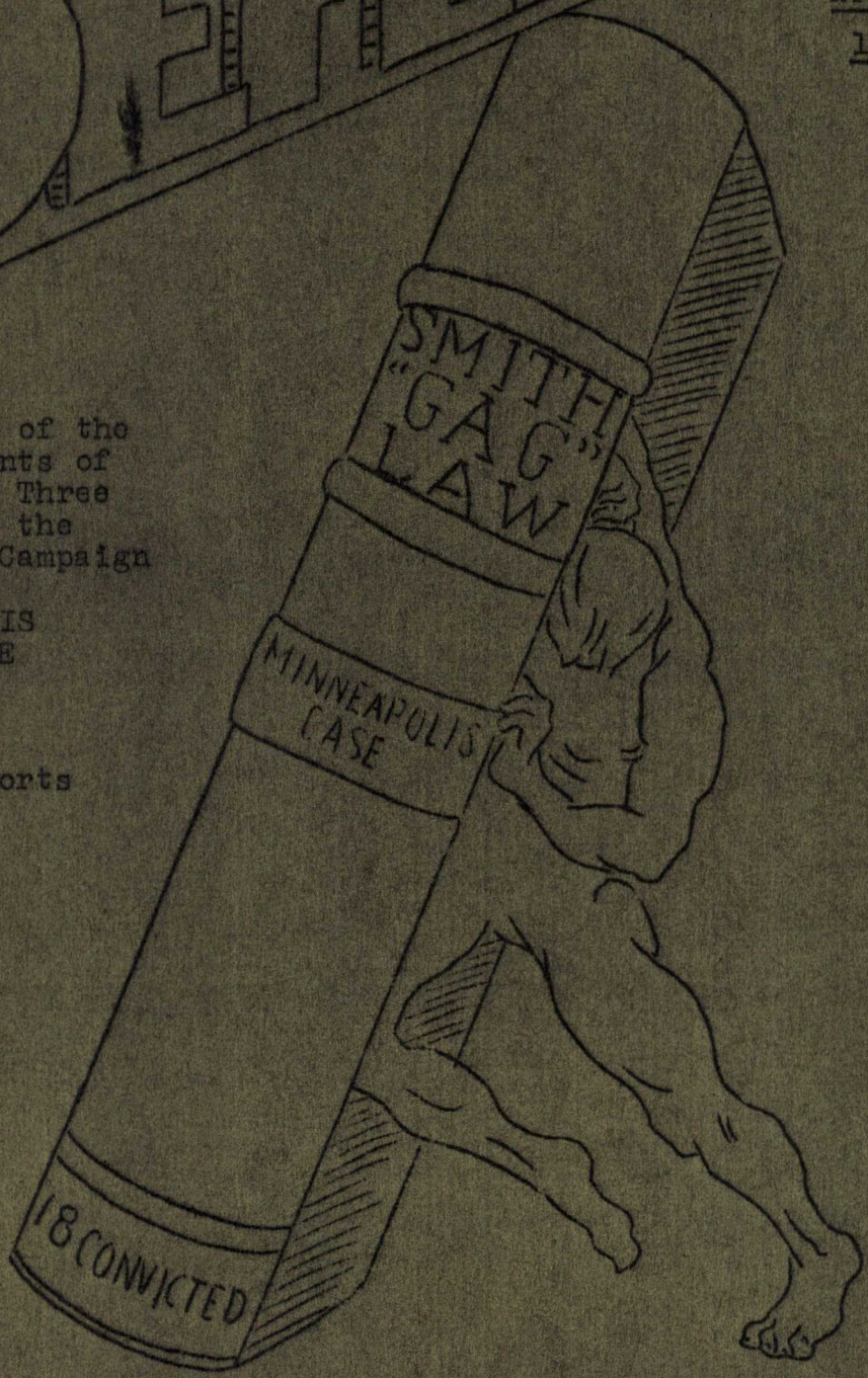
From D.B., Glenside, Pa.
"My liberal education has been neglected! Though I'm a man of small monies, here's a buck to help fight this trial...if you need more dough later, write me again...I'll do my best."

From W.E.C., Cambridge, Mass.
"I am not content to read your urgent letter on the Minneapolis sedition trial and put it indifferently away. The least I can do is to write my hearty approval of your gallant attempt which...must succeed. I shall broadcast it among the circles in which I move...and follow this up with a second and more profitable letter to you."

From S.B., Canon City, Colo.
"We are 71 and have but little money, but we are glad to do all we can to help real people!"

CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDER

APRIL
1944



A Summary of the Achievements of the First Three Months of the National Campaign on the MINNEAPOLIS LABOR CASE

Also:
First Reports on the NATIONAL CRDC TOUR

Published by the CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE 160-5TH AVE NYC

FIRST REPORTS OF THE NATIONAL TOUR

The National Tour by George Novack, National CRDC Secretary is proving to be a tremendous success. The Local Committees are stimulated into new and greater activities. The first reports from Mr. Novack are quoted below:

ROCHESTER, N.Y., March 18.

"After listening to my account of the Minneapolis Labor Case and the importance of the issues involved, a number of friends and supporters of the CRDC decided to join the Local Committee and push its work.

"Mr. Hansen, ex-Teamsters Union official and delegate to the Rochester Trades & Labor Council, now a prominent figure in the Firemen's Union, was elected president of the local CRDC. Another, Second Chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, promised to participate actively in our efforts. A third, steel worker, who belongs to the only steel workers local in town, agreed to try to get petitions and endorsements.

"A program of activity was mapped out to get as many of Rochester's unions behind the case as possible. We are starting with the Railroad Council where another resolution will surely be passed and then will go to all the various railroad craft lodges, engineers, firemen, conductors, etc. Our friends believe that the resolutions will come pouring in in the next few weeks. We contacted the head of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineer Lodges while I was here, and he offered to act favorably.

"This strengthening of the CRDC is the result of the spade work done by our friends. The case of the 18 is already known to many of the railroad workers here, who are very progressive. I was taken over to the roundhouse and introduced to a number of rail workers and officers who had signed the petition. The poster is put up right there in the roundhouse office and looks impressive. It was a pleasant note for me to be talking about the case to workers right on the job with the steam billowing up around us. We distributed a number of the pamphlets.

"Rochester considers the Contact Book you originated indispensable and want some more. They say that in visiting individuals and organizations this is the most compact method of presentation."

BUFFALO, N.Y. March 20.

"Buffalo CRDC activities are in full swing. They have already visited about 12 unions and have received contributions from 3 totalling about $100. Representatives have spoken before 8, and the women CRDC members have developed into very good speakers. They will visit a number of other local unions in the next few weeks, not only in Buffalo, but in the regions nearby, such as Niagara Falls,etc.

"During the last campaign Buffalo collected about $300 from local unions, and they hope to surpass that this time, even though conditions are less favorable in the local unions. Other locals will be solicited after the elections, within a couple of weeks.

"Buffalo has about 300 signatures on petitions, mostly obtained through house-to-house work in the Negro neighborhoods. They make the suggestion from their contact experience that you combine all the prominent Negro supporters and endorsers into a single sheet for use among Negroes.

"They were very pleased by the Workmen's Circle endorsement and will visit the 3 branches here. They say "That's like money in the bank." They are making a mailing to a list of local liberals of a letter bearing the signatures of six prominent civil liberties and labor figures.

"Buffalo originated the idea of the Dollar-A-Month Club. They have already got $11 of the pledges and hope to have it up to $20 soon. They have no doubt of their ability to meet their monthly quota.

"Buffalo must also be credited with another innovation which you should pass on to the other Local Committees. They have drawn up a CRDC Campaign Progress Chart which they display prominently at every meeting, showing the various categories of work, signatures, resolutions, funds, etc. This shows at a glance what the Committee has done - or not done."

YOUNGSTOWN, O., March 22.

"Youngstown had planned to have me visit the CIO Council officials, but unfortunately they were all called to Washington for a steel conference with Murray, so that the best I could do was leave a note and pamphlet.

"We mapped out a program of activities. First to get a resolution of support from the Youngstown CIO Council where we have friends, and to do the same in several steel locals where we can get a sure response. A group of representatives will contact liberals and others for donations. The Workmen's Circle and the NAACP will be seen soon also.

"In addition, our friends will visit Newcastle, Pa. where the CIO officials are sympathetic to the case, and have promised endorsements and contributions. They will also visit other unions in cities throughout the Mahoning Valley. I believe that from now on Youngstown will be heard from. They have been collecting regularly from a number of supporters, and can meet their assigned quota."

AKRON, O. March 25.

"I spoke at the first public meeting on my tour last night at the AFL Milk Drivers Hall in Akron. About 25 people were present and the collection was $26. A number of people signified willingness to attend a CRDC meeting in a week or so to extend this work. As you will see from the enclosed clippings, the Summitt County Labor News gave me publicity and the CRDC took an ad for the meeting in the Akron-Beacon Journal.

"Equally important was the visit I made with an AFL Organizer, to an official of Goodrich Local 5 of the United Rubber Workers, and a leading progressive CIO leader in Akron. He was very friendly and agreed to aid the CRDC in every way possible. The District Council of the URWA-CIO meets in several weeks, and we will try to get a resolution passed. After this we will be able to get the endorsements of most of the leading rubber unions in this area.

"A new Regional Director will visit cities where we do not yet have representatives, such as Canton, Dayton, Cincinnati, etc. Akron wants more of the Contact Books. Will you please also send me three or four at once, as they are extremely useful in approaching CIO leaders."

Plans of other Committees for Tour

Toledo - A meeting
Detroit: A Dinner-Meeting in Rev. Owen D. Knox's Church. Other speakers - Rev. Horace White, Tucker Smith, Matthew Smith, a CIO official.
Twin-Cities: 2 WDL sponsored affairs in Minneapolis & St. Paul; appearance before a University Group, the Saturday Lunch Club, the Farmers Union, possibly the local Workmen's Circle.
Milwaukee: A public meeting.
San Francisco: Mass meeting, possibly at a union hall.
Los Angeles: Mass meeting.

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PROTESTS AGAINST THE IMPRISONMENTS and ENDORSEMENTS OF THE CRDC CAMPAIGN

In the past three months numerous protests have been made against the imprisonment of the 18. Some of these are in the form of resolutions passed by unions; some are letters addressed to President Roosevelt, calling upon him to grant immediate and unconditional pardon. Others are letters to the CRDC, endorsing our work and supporting our fight to free the 18 and repeal the anti-labor Smith "Gag" Act. All of these resolutions and letters of protest will be included in the Presidential Pardon Dossier.

FROM THE LABOR MOVEMENT

August Scholle, Regional Director, Nat.CIO Political Action Com.
N.J.State Industrial Union Council, Newark, N.J.
Michigan State CIO Council, Detroit, Mich. John Gibson letter
Worcester CIO Industrial Union Council, Worcester, Mass.
John Green, International President, Industrial Union of Marine & Shipbuilding Workers of Am., CIO
William S. Schaeffer, President, Local 42 IUMSWA
Herbert B. Moyer, Executive Sec. " " "
Tucker P. Smith, Executive Director, Detroit Joint Board United Retail, Wholesale & Dept. Store Empl.-CIO
Louis Nelson, Mgr. Sec. Knitgoods Workers Union, ILGWU-AFL
Mark Starr, Educational Director, ILGWU-AFL
Michael Harris, President, Phila. Industrial Union Council
Robert Parker, Area Director, Nat. CIO War Relief Council
Frank E. Ritter, Chairman, Legislative Committee, Delaware, County Industrial Union Council, Philadelphia.
Lawrence Rogin, Educational Director, Textile Workers Un.N.Y.
Charles Zimmerman, Sec. Mgr., Dressmakers Union, N.Y.Local 22.
Gabriel De Angelis, Brewster UAW-CIO Local 365, N.Y.
Metal & Machinery Workers Industrial Union, Cleveland Br.#440
Brewers Union #7, San Francisco, Cal.
Brotherhood of Painters, Paperhangers & Decorators AFL,Reading
Letter signed by five Reading labor officials:
John Torchia, Local Chairman, Blacksmiths Union 197
Clarence Feriagame, Vice-Chairman, I.A.M. Berkshire #682
Elery Ochsrider Jr., Secretary, Railway Carmen #652
Guiseppe A. Befano, President & Social Chairman, Reg. Lodge #2780 Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Emp.
George K. Oarsons, Vice Local Chairman, Boilermakers#560
The Workmen's Circle, National Office, N.Y.

FROM RELIGIOUS CIRCLES

Church of the People, Seattle, Washington
Rev. John A. F. Maynard, French Church of Esprit, N.Y.
Rev. Douglas Horton, Congregational Christian Churches, N.Y.
Rev. Paul Sherer, Evangelical Lutheran Church, N.Y.

FROM LIBERAL CIRCLES

Warren K. Billings, San Francisco, Cal.
Babette Deutsch, New York
Clement Greenberg, New York
Judge Dorothy Kenyon, New York
Prof. Irwin R. Beiler, Allegheny College, Meadvill
DeWitt Barlow, New York
Sidney Hertzberg, Editor, Common Sense, N.Y.
Alfred Baker Lewis, New York
Mary E. Woolley, Pres. Em., Mt. Holyoke College, Mass.
Clarence E. Rust, San Francisco, Cal.
Bella K. Milmed, Newark, N.J.
S. L. Hoover, Mt. Rainier, Md.
Dr. Antoinette F. Konikow, Boston, Mass.
Bella Hurst Aaron, attorney, San Francisco, Cal.
Prof. F. C. Hayes, Guilford College, N. Carolina
C. A. Adams, E.A. Budd Mfg. Co., Philadelphia
Adolph Held, Amalgamated Bank of New York,
Margaret West, Minneapolis, Minn.
Israel Knox, National Director, Workmen's Circle
Gertrude C. Bussey, Women's International League for Peace & Freedom, Baltimore, Md.

FROM NEGRO ORGANIZATIONS & INDIVIDUALS

National Assn. for Advancement of Colored People, Board of Directors
March on Washington Movement, National and New York
Angelo Herndon, Editor, The People's Advocate, San Francisco
Theodore Spaulding, attorney and President of the Philadelphia Branch of the NAACP
Carolyn Davenport Moore, Executive Secretary NAACP, Phila.
Mrs. Edith M. Hurley, President, Penna. Association of Teachers of Colored Children, Philadelphia
Raymond Pace Alexander, Philadelphia attorney
Willard Townsend, International President, Transport Employees, Chicago
A. Clayton Powell, editor The People's Voice
Frank R. Crosswaith, Chairman, Negro Labor Committee
Rev. Marshall L. Shepard, Baptist Church, Philadelphia
Rev. E. Luther Cunningham, St. Paul's Baptist Church, Phila.

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Local Committees should continue to secure letters of protest and endorsements of our work from prominent individuals in each area. Similarly with resolutions of support from labor and fraternal organizations. These should be sent to the National Office. We have 200 pages in our gold-embossed Pardon Book, and we want sufficient letters and endorsements to be mounted on all these pages.

M I D - Y E A R

R E P O R T

of the

CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE

July 15, 1944

MID-YEAR REPORT OF THE

CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE

July 15, 1944

July 15 marks the third anniversary of the Civil Rights Defense Committee. The main activity of our Committee in the past six months has been the national campaign to free the 18 CIO and Socialist Workers Party prisoners in the Minneapolis Labor Case.

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO FREE THE 18.

Immediately following the refusal of the Supreme Court last December to review the convictions in the Minneapolis Labor Case, the CRDC initiated a national campaign to free the 18 and repeal the Smith "Gag" Act under which they were the first to be sentenced.

In New York a huge mass meeting was held in Manhattan Center on December 16, 1943, at which prominent civil liberties figures denounced the imprisonments and urged labor and liberal support for the campaign to free the 18.

Over 30 Local Committees throughout the country were mobilized behind the campaign and began at once to publicize the issues in the case and to raise funds for relief, legal and other expenses.

NATIONAL SECRETARY'S TOUR

The outstanding event of the first six months of the campaign was the coast-to-coast tour by George Novack, National CRDC Secretary.

Public meetings were held in over 30 cities, and inspiring demonstrations of labor-liberal support were given. Mr. Novack addressed scores of audiences, representing the most progressive sections of American life - trade unions, Negro organizations, farm audiences, university and civil liberties groups. He talked personally with numerous trade union officials and with Negro leaders, clergymen, lawyers, civil liberties leaders and progressive individuals. He was invited to speak before trade union meetings attended by hundreds of workers.

In most cities prominent figures in labor, Negro and civil liberties circles shared the platform with Mr. Novack and energetically supported his appeal for aid. Prominently represented were labor figures from auto, steel, textile and other unions.

MOUNTING LABOR SUPPORT

In the vanguard of all this support for the CRDC is the trade union movement. Almost 250 labor bodies representing a million and a half workers have officially backed the campaign to free the 18.

Four Internationals have gone on record supporting this case: The Textile Workers Union of America-CIO; United Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Employees-CIO; United Transport Service Employees-CIO and International Ladies' Garment Workers Union-AFL.

Among the local unions supporting the case are 50 UAW-CIO, 20 Steelworkers, a dozen ILGWU-AFL locals as well as numerous Councils and Joint Boards.

In the past six months trade union support has more than doubled the same for the preceding 2½ years. There are three main reasons for this mounting labor support:

1. Progressive labor sees in this prosecution one of the spearheads of reaction against the whole labor movement. They know that if this case is unchallenged, more and greater repressions will follow.

2. The 18 are in prison. Previously many people thought the case would be thrown out by the Supreme Court even if it were upheld through the lower courts.

3. The energetic work of the CRDC, its members, friends and collaborators. A large share of the credit belongs to the members of the Local Committees for their tireless efforts and work in this case.

In recent months, four prominent labor figures have joined the National Committee of the CRDC: George Baldanzi, Executive Vice-President of the Textile Workers Union of America-CIO; Thomas De Lorenzo, President and Gabriel De Angelis, Financial Secretary of Brewster Local 365 UAW-CIO, and Bernard Rifkin, Associate Editor of Aero-Notes, Brewster official publication.

NEGRO SUPPORT

Most of the leading Negro organizations have endorsed the work of the CRDC, among them the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the March on Washington Movement, the Negro Labor Committee, the Future Outlook League, the Mass Movement League, the San Francisco Committee Against Segregation and Discrimination, etc. Many prominent Negro leaders, clergymen and educators have endorsed the case.

FRATERNAL ORGANIZATION SUPPORT

The two largest labor fraternal organizations, the Workmen's Circle and the Workmen's Benefit Fund, have not only endorsed the case, but have sent mailings to their branches appealing to them to contribute to the CRDC.

CRDC PUBLICATIONS

Three times as much literature has been sold and distributed in the past six months as in the preceding 2½ years.

The first printing of the pamphlet "Who Are the 18 Prisoners in the Minneapolis Labor Case" in February was 30,000. These were exhausted by the end of June and a new printing of 20,000 went to press. The following tabulation does not include the literature printed for the Kelly Postal case:

Previous 2½ years:

"Witch-Hunt in Minnesota"	15,000
"Workers on Trial"	15,000
"Bill of Rights in Danger"	10,000
Total..	40,000

Past Six Months:

"Who Are the 18"	50,000
"Free the 18"leaflets	50,000
James T. Farrell's speech	30,000
Total..	130,000

In addition, in the past three years we have reprinted and distributed hundreds of thousands of editorials, articles and endorsements on the case.

PUBLICITY

In the past six months, the CRDC has utilized three additional avenues for publicizing the case: articles in the press, radio broadcasts and paid advertisements.

Although the liberal and working class political press has carried stories about the case from the beginning - such as the Nation, the New Republic, the New Leader, the Call, the Progressive - in the past six months the trade union press has begun to take its rightful place in this publicity. The following trade union organs have carried stories on the case.

THE ADVANCE - official organ of Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America-CIO, N.Y.
AERO-NOTES - organ of Brewster Local 365 UAW-CIO,N.Y.
LOCAL 104 REPORTER - organ of Boilermakers Local 104, Seattle, Washington
JUSTICE - ILGWU paper, N.Y.
KNITGOODS WORKERS VOICE - ILGWU paper
UNION VOICE - organ of Playthings, Jewelry & Novelty Workers - CIO
AMERICAN LABOR NEWS - official eastern UAW-CIO shop paper.
GIUSTIZIA - Local 89 ILGWU-AFL paper, in Italian.

In addition, the JEWISH FORWARD and THE DAY have written articles on the case.

Two radio broadcasts were given: on April 15 by James T. Farrell over Station WEVD, and on June 1st by Gabriel De Angelis, over WEVD.

Two full pages were purchased in The Nation and The New Republic, week of June 1st.

MAILINGS

In the past six months, mailings have gone out to almost 50,000 names. These lists include the membership list of the American Civil Liberties Union - about 5,000; the Fellowship of Reconciliation - about 11,000 names, and a Workers Defense League list of about 3,000.

Numerous trade union mailing lists have been utilized, including the national UAW-CIO, the Brewers Unions, the Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Employees, and some of the Textile Workers Unions.

PETITION CAMPAIGN

The campaign quota of 10,000 signatures will go well over the top by the time the campaign closes at the end of July. The following Local Committees have been most prominent in securing these signatures on petitions:

Bayonne	150
Boston	250
Buffalo	1,000
Chicago	1,300
Cleveland	100
Detroit	950
Flint	100
Los Angeles	800
Milwaukee	120
Newark	750
New York	2,500
Rochester	65
San Francisco	500
Seattle	800
Twin-Cities	750
Total to date	10,135

The above figure includes the petitions signed by the memberships of the following unions and organizations:

United Steel Workers #260, Lackawanna, N.Y.
Brewers Unions, #7 San Francisco, #4 Buffalo,
ILGWU-AFL #155, N.Y. #9 and #10, N.Y.
American Car & Foundry U.S.A. #2551, Buffalo
Brewster Local 365 UAW-CIO, N.Y.
Amer. Fed. of Hosiery Workers #49, Irvington, N.J.
Millinery Workers Union #24, N.Y.
Phoenix Brass #462, Newark, N.J.
UAW-CIO #217, Cleveland
Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Buffalo
Bakery & Confectionery #30, Detroit
UAW-CIO Local 212, Detroit
Workmen's Benefit Fund, San Francisco
Workmen's Circle #355-E, Newark, #1016 Los Angeles
Socialist Party, Boston

The CRDC has received hundreds of letters from prominent individuals, as well as resolutions from labor and progressive organizations urging President Roosevelt to uphold the Bill of Rights by pardoning the 18.

These, together with the editorial protests, the 10,000 signatures, will be presented to the President, backing up the prisoners' applications for pardon.

FINANCES

In order to provide relief for the prisoners and their families, to carry on the national campaign and to cover administrative expenses, the CRDC has had to raise approximately $2,000 each month during the past six months. It will be necessary to raise an equivalent amount each month for the balance of the year. A breakdown of income from our four main sources for the past six months follows:

Local Committees.....	$4,525.00
Trade Unions & Organizations...	3,340.00
Individuals.....	3,238.00
Loans.....	500.00

An analysis of income from trade unions and other organizations follows:

63	CIO unions.....	$1,606.40
32	AFL & Independent unions.....	744.00
108	Workmen's Circle branches.....	276.45
7	Workmen's Benefit Fund branches...	17.00
17	Miscellaneous organizations.....	630.80

About $150 has been received from advertisements appearing in The Militant, the Fourth International, the Nation and the New Republic.

AID TO THE PRISONERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

The largest single expense for the CRDC is the monthly relief for the 18 prisoners and their families. The CRDC sends $10 a month to each of the 18 prisoners. This is all they are permitted to receive. In addition we have provided them with dozens of books of all kinds which they have requested.

The families of the prisoners are provided for in accordance with the size and needs of each family. Every month we receive letters from various members of these families expressing the gratitude of the prisoners and themselves for the aid we are able to give them. Without this aid they say they would suffer great hardships.

During his tour the National Secretary visited the 14 prisoners in Sandstone and before the end of July he will ha ve visited the three in Danbury and Grace Carlson in Alderson.

LOCAL COMMITTEE FINANCIAL QUOTAS

Following is a tabulation of financial quotas of the Local Committees and the totals they have sent in for the past six months. These figures include all credits given to them for funds raised through their efforts from local trade unions and individuals.

LOCAL COMMITTEE	QUOTA PER MONTH	PAID SIX MONTHS
Akron, Ohio	$ 10.00	$ 45.00
Allentown, Pa.	5.00	33.00
Bayonne, N.J.	20.00	144.17
Boston, Mass.	25.00	266.50
Buffalo, N.Y.	25.00	173.00
Chicago, Ill.	100.00	470.00
Detroit, Mich.	100.00	944.00
Flint, Mich.	5.00	44.50
Los Angeles, Cal.	100.00	614.75
Milwaukee, Wisc.	5.00	51.55
New Haven, Conn.	15.00	6.00
Newark, N.J.	30.00	390.90
New York, N.Y.	150.00	2,467.00
Philadelphia, Pa.	15.00	25.00
Plentywood, Mont.	5.00	10.00
Reading, Pa.	5.00	165.25
Rochester, N.Y.	5.00	26.21
San Francisco, Cal.	100.00	697.50
St. Louis, Mo.	5.00	40.00
Seattle, Wash.	35.00	512.90
Toledo, Ohio	5.00	24.00
Twin-Cities, Minn.	40.00	645.14
Youngstown, O.	10.00	70.00
	$ 815.00	$7,866.37

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT

An audited statement of the finances of the CRDC for the three-year period from July 1941 through May 1944 has just been completed by a Certified Public Accountant.

Copies of this statement will be sent to all members of the National Committee, and to all Local Committees as soon as they are ready.

In the three years from July 1941 to July 1944 the CRDC has raised almost $42,000. A tabulation of the

approximate sums raised in this period from four main sources of income follows:

Local Committees.....	$15,250
Trade Unions & Organizations.....	8,500
Individuals.....	8,500
Loans.....	9,000

Most of the loans were made during the early stages of the case; only $500 was borrowed in the past six months. Two-thirds of the loans have been paid, leaving a balance of about $3,000 in loan obligations.

OTHER CRDC CASES

KELLY POSTAL PAROLED

On May 30, 1944 Kelly Postal was released on parole to the State of Oregon from Stillwater State Penitentiary in Minnesota. He had been imprisoned on June 18, 1943.

This victory is primarily the result of the vigorous CRDC campaign waged in Postal's behalf. The Parole officials admitted that they released him because they did not want "another Mooney-Billings case" on their hands.

The CRDC will continue to provide relief for Kelly Postal and his sick wife until he has secured a job and can provide for himself.

MILITANT MAILING RIGHTS RESTORED

On March 17, 1944 the second-class mailing rights were restored to the Militant by order of the Postmaster-General's office. These rights had been cancelled on March 3, 1943, after a number of issues had previously been confiscated and destroyed by Postoffice officials.

The CRDC collaborated with the American Civil Liberties Union and the Socialist Workers Party in fighting this violation of freedom of the press.

CARL SKOGLUND

The deportation charges against Carl Skoglund are still pending and will have to be fought upon his release from Sandstone. The CRDC is prepared to proceed with the next steps in this case when that becomes necessary.

IN CONCLUSION

Today the Minneapolis Labor Case has become nationally and even internationally known as the most important case involving civil liberties and labor's rights in the Second World War. It has become one of the great labor defense struggles of our time, comparable with the Mooney-Billings and the Eugene V. Debs cases during the First World War.

We have forged ahead despite a conspiracy of silence in the official press and against powerful opposition. The growing support accorded our work is the greatest tribute to the devotion of each and every member of the national and local CRDC. Because of these achievements, the CRDC has established itself as an authoritative and respected organization defending the democratic rights of the labor movement and the American people.

The National Office takes this opportunity to thank all the members of the Local Committees for their faithful and loyal collaboration. The achievements noted in this report should be a source of pride and gratification for those who have participated in our work.

Our fight to free the 18 goes on. With your help we will carry it through to the end.

Evelyn Anderson

Acting Secretary

No. 1. C I V I L R I G H T S D E F E N D E R

Issued by the CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE, 160 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C.

Sept. 29, 1941

James T. Farrell, Chairman — Carlo Tresca, Vice-Chairman
John Dos Passos, Vice Chairman — George Novack, Secretary

HERE IS THE FIRST of a series of bulletins to the Local Committees of the CRDC and to all liberal and labor sympathizers who are outraged by the government attack on civil liberties and democratic unionism in the Minnesota case. These bulletins will keep you informed on all important developments and Committee activities. We need to hear from YOU. What is being done in your branch Committee, trade-union or community? Let's have regular reports of your activities for use in the DEFENDER. Tell us what material you need. Send us the names of sympathizers.....And

R A I S E M O N E Y

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NATIONAL COMMITTEE

Among prominent individuals who have accepted membership on National Committee are:

William Rose Benet - Poet, Editor of Sat. Review of Literature
Kenneth G. Crawford - former Pres. Amer. Newspaper Guild, now Washington correspondent of P.M. & Louisville Courier-Jrnl.
Dr. John Dewey - world-famous educator.
Emmett E. Dorsey - Negro leader & professor at Howard Univ.
George W. Hartmann - Socialist candidate for Mayor of N.Y.C. & professor at Columbia Univ.
Dorothy Kenyon -noted labor lawyer
Alfred Baker Lewis - well known Socialist
Ludwig Lore -Columnist N.Y. Post
Philip Rahv -Ed. Partisan Review
Max Shachtman- Sec. Workers Party
Meyer Schapiro - Prof. Columbia Un.

We want to make the National Committee as large and representative as possible. Send us your suggestions of prominent liberal and labor leaders who might be invited to join the Committee.

544-CIO ENDORSEMENT

Of the 29 defendants, 16 are members of Local 544-CIO, Motor Transport Workers Union. The government is persecuting a labor union as well as attacking civil liberties. We are therefore glad to tell you that Local 544-CIO has just sent us their endorsement of our Committee as their authorized representative in this defense campaign. We must have the support and financial help of organized labor in this fight. The press has printed little news about the case and as yet few union workers know anything about it. SPREAD THE STORY IN THE UNIONS. Solicit the unions in your area. We have reprints of Local 544's endorsement. How many can you use? Other useful material for union distribution is the CIO Auto-Workers Resolution and Labor's Non-Partisan League Statement. We have reprints of both. How many do you want?

The "Emergency Appeal"s are most useful in raising funds. How many can you circularize?

ACLU LETTER TO BIDDLE

The ACLU wrote a stinging letter of protest to Attorney-General Biddle on the Minnesota case, stating that the prosecution infringed on civil liberties and calling upon the government to dismiss the charges. This letter, signed by John Haynes Holmes, Arthur Garfield Hays and Roger Baldwin, is a powerful piece of propaganda for the defense. The ACLU is reprinting it in its Quarterly Bulletin which is just out, and is planning to send a copy of the Bulletin containing this letter to all liberal Congressmen. We have reprints of the ACLU letter. How many can you use?

* * * * *

PROSECUTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN PROMISES!

In a featured article in the Magazine Section of the N.Y.Times, Sunday Sept. 21, Att.-Gen. Biddle is quoted as saying: "Insofar as I can, by the use of the authority and influence of my office, I intend to see that civil liberties in this country are protected; that we do not again fall into the disgraceful hysteria of witch-hunts, strike-breakings and minority persecutions which were such a dark chapter in our record of the last World War."

This declaration directly conflicts with the prosecution initiated by Biddle against the leaders of Local 544-CIO and the Socialist Workers Party, on charges of "conspiring to overthrow the government by armed force."

Alice-in-Wonderland lived in a soberer world than ours, where everything marches on its head. The war-mongers declare war in the name of peace, multi-millionaires make sacrifices at the expense of the workers, and the witch-hunters deplore witch-hunting!

LETTERS FROM WORKER-SUPPORTERS

Here are two letters showing the kind of support we are getting.

"Enclosed is $3. to defend the 29 victims that are about to be railroaded on frame-up charges, by the Federal Government.

"I'm sorry that at this time I can't send more because I only work part time. But I know that it is my duty to send what I can. After all, I was once connected with the Communist Party and am now being watched by the F.B.I. and may some day have to lay down my life for the working class.

"Well here is hoping that I can do better later."

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"Enclosed you will find my check for $2.50 to go to the support of the Minnesota embattled workers. I hope your returns are enough to give them the support they deserve.

"As a former member of the CIO and as member of American Federation of Teachers I cannot close my eyes on the difficult situation some of our brothers are finding themselves in.

"Every penny spent on cases of this kind should make our world the more livable when my school-teacher days are through."

* * * * * *

WE NEED MONEY - AND QUICKLY!

Few people realize the tremendous expenses involved in fighting a case of this kind. Before it is finished, costs can easily amount to thousands of dollars.

Already this Committee has spent close to $5,000, half of which has been obtained thru loans from organizations & individuals which must soon be repaid. This includes only expenses to date - there still remain the prospective expenses and heavy legal fees for the coming trial; estimated at over $10,000.

CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDER

Issued by the CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENSE COMMITTEE, 160 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C.
No. 2 ..... Nov. 15, 1941

James T. Farrell, Chairman
John Dos Passos, Vice-Chairman
Carlo Tresca, Vice-Chairman
George E. Novack, Secretary

A NOTE FROM MINNEAPOLIS

"Dear Friends:

Being here would give you a feeling which you cannot possibly get from second hand information. The men are showing up so fine, and their wives and daughters work so hard and loyally, that it is an inspiration to watch the morale.

I can't find the words to tell you how deeply the defendants appreciate the help that the CRDC is giving them.

Of the 27 defendants we are taking care of, four have no families and four have no children. All the others have either small tots or grown children, which means that should the government get a conviction, about ten of the defendants will leave behind wives with small children."

MEMBERS!

Forty people are being fed two meals a day six days a week. Relief is being furnished to many of the defendants and their families, many of whom are married men and women with children, and without present sources of income. $300 a week is needed for the commissary alone! Court transcrips, legal fees, publicity, etc. total an additional expense of $700 a week!

BUFFALO GOES TO TOWN!

Buffalo in one week collected $100 from three local unions. This is how they did it.

"We approached the CIO unions directly, not waiting for top endorsements. We stressed in our speeches the dictatorship of Tobin, the importance of democracy in the unions, and the clean, militant record of these leaders.

"Plan your speech ahead of time. Try not to make it last more than five or six minutes. Don't use any details. The speech should be bang-bang all the way through.

"The receptions are excellent, and there is generally great applause after our talks. At the Ford local a Stalinist tried to object and have a committee appointed to 'investigate' but he was told to 'sit down' by the membership."

BILL OF RIGHTS--1791-1941?

December 15th marks the 150th anniversary of the Bill of Rights. Convictions in Minneapolis would mark its untimely death.

We suggest to all local committees that they hold meetings on this birthday.

KEEP THEM FREE!

WE NEED $1000 A WEEK

WHEN IN DOUBT...DO AS NEW HAVEN HAS SO ADMIRABLY DONE

New Haven's branch committee includes the following members representing the broadest and best sections of labor and liberal elements:

Mrs. Nelson Rostow, Woman Leader
Rev. Edgar N. Jackson, Minister
Yandell Luchek, Yale Labor College
Jacob Belford, Labor Attorney
Dr. J.G. Butler, Minister
Ellouese Day, Negro Leader
Dr. Willard Uphaus, Executive Secretary
Nat'l. Religious & Labor Foundation
Caesar Guazzo, CIO Organizer
Eleanor Fiedler, Union woman
Frank Trainor, SWOC Organizer
Norman Nelson, ILGWU Organizer
Wm. Winnick, Central Labor Union Delegate

NEW LEAFLET COMING OFF PRESS

Our publicity representative in Minneapolis has written a leaflet intended for mass distribution to workers. It contains biographies of all the defendants, and in general will provide the branch committees with a very useful supplement to the "Witch Hunt in Minneapolis."

We expect that we will be able to provide the branches with these leaflets at 1¢ apiece.

Distributing such a leaflet to a union meeting before you approach the union for funds will help pave the way.

TIPS ON TALKS

1. The trial is on the level of the Scopes Monkey Trial, which attempted to outlaw the teachings of established science.

2. Outlawing the "Communist Manifesto" which is the aim of Prosecutor Anderson, is only comparable to the bookburning edicts of Hitler.

3. Since no overt acts can be proved, and since Anderson has explicitly stated that he does not need to convict on such grounds, the government obviously has in mind establishing a precedent for a "Dangerous Thoughts" Law, today enforced in the land of the Mikado.

4. The broad implications of this prosecution were made very clear by the opening statement of the prosecutor, who gave as evidence of the crimes of the defendants that they fought for continually higher wages. This amounts to an attempt to brand as subversive the right of collective bargaining.

5. The tie-up between the prosecution of the 28 in Minneapolis, and Daniel J. Tobin, President of the Teamsters International, AFL, is doubly clear now that the prosecution has trotted out as its chief witnesses, paid agents of the Teamsters' head.

These points, and many others, have made this case the broadest attack on civil liberties since the First World War.

BREAK INTO THE PRESS

To break the conspiracy of silence in the press, we suggest that every member of the committee, and all friends, write letters to the editors of your local papers.

ALSO, SEND US CLIPPINGS OF STORIES!

WHERE ARE YOUR REPORTS?

We have sent to all branch committees report forms to send in to the National Office. Please send them in each week. Also, minutes of your meetings. We can then pass on your ideas.

$1,000 A WEEK!

THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZER

The first ten days of the drive to get subscriptions to the Industrial Organizer have brought real results. Two branch committees have already gone over the top on their quotas.

These two on the honor roll are Plentywood, Montana, and Hutchinson, Kansas.

Thus far there have been about 160 subs sent in.

The Industrial Organizer has carried complete day to day reports on the trial. The lack of adequate coverage in the general press makes the Organizer indispensable to all interested in following the events.

1,000 subs to the Organizer will mean 1,000 people who know what is actually happening in the courtroom.

AN IDEA FROM NEW YORK COMMITTEE

The New York branch committee has initiated as a regular feature of its work for the 28, "DEFENSE SUNDAYS."

Each Sunday the members and their friends go house to house, selling the "Witch Hunt" pamphlet and collecting donations.

This assures a regular weekly income, and spreads the story of the trial to a broad section of the people.

Try it in your town and let us know the results.

UNIONS CONTRIBUTE TO CRDC

The list of local unions which have made official contributions to the Civil Rights Defense Committee steadily mounts.

Several UAW locals in various cities have made donations.

In Chicago, four locals of the United Construction Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, have made contributions.

Locals of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO, have heard CRDC speakers with great interest and have made contributions.

Several SWOC locals have solidarized themselves with the defendants by donating.

Union work can be not only lucrative, but a real experience.

SEND YOUR MONEY IN NOW

WE OWE ALL POSSIBLE AID TO THE MINNEAPOLIS DEFENDANTS.

THEY ARE THE FRONT LINE FIGHTERS FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES AND THE DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE.

LABOR'S RIGHTS ARE ON TRIAL.

KEEP IN MIND THAT $1,000 A WEEK IS NEEDED TO CARRY ON THE DEFENSE

If you have suggestions for material to be carried in the CIVIL RIGHTS DEFENDER, send them in.